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KEY INTELLIGENCE QUESTIONS FOR FY 1976

Introduction

- 1. They Key Intelligence Questions are designed to be responsive to and to support the Substantive Objectives of the Intelligence Community for FY 1976 as noted by the United States Intelligence Board on June 13, 1975, prior to the submission of those Objectives to the President.
- 2. The Key Intelligence Questions for Fiscal Year 1976 are issued as guidance to the Intelligence Community for the collection and production of intelligence on subjects of major importance to national-level intelligence consumers during FY 1976. These Key Intelligence Questions obviously do not exhaust the universe of consumer needs; there are additional important categories of intelligence collection and production which are not included in this priority national intelligence guidance:
 - (a) Lower priority national intelligence subjects:
 These are deliberately omitted in order to emphasize the importance of the Key Intelligence Questions. It is recognized that some attention must be devoted to lower priority subjects, such as developments in Africa, although wherever possible less expensive and less difficult collection techniques should be employed. A level of attention must also be devoted to countries and issues

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deemed likely to become important some years from now, even though they may not pose immediate or pressing major problems during FY 1976.

- Departmental and tactical intelligence: This includes the intelligence requirements of the operational commanders, as well as certain warning and surveillance activities. An appropriate portion of the national intelligence effort must be devoted to meeting these needs, and the National Foreign Intelligence Budget Recommendations will take them into account. Continuing efforts will be made to improve the interaction and mutual support of national and tactical intelligence programs so that the needs of each level may be served by the same activities to the maximum extent possible. In framing these Key Intelligence Questions for FY 1976, careful consideration was also paid to departmental objectives with national implications or overtones. The Defense Key Intelligence Questions which replaced the Critical Near-Term Defense Intelligence Objectives of the Department of Defense were given special attention.
- 3. The Key Intelligence Questions are circulated for the following purposes:

- (a) First, to insure that these subjects are given priority in the regular collection and production activities of appropriate elements of the Intelligence Community.
- (b) Second, to enable review of collection and production planning by the member agencies of the Intelligence Community via a brief, succinct Strategy Report prepared on each KIQ under the aegis of the appropriate National Intelligence Officer.
- (c) Third, to provide the basis for a recapitulation and evaluation, after the close of the fiscal year, of the performance of the Intelligence Community -- and of individual agencies -- on each of the Key Intelligence Questions.
- (d) Fourth, to permit the conclusions drawn from the recapitulation and evaluation of the FY 1976 effort to be used as factors in Community resource allocations, and in the preparation of the National Foreign Intelligence Budget Recommendations which the Director of Central Intelligence will be sending to the President.
- 4. The Key Intelligence Questions have been grouped, where possible, under one of the five Substantive Objectives for the Intelligence Community as submitted to the President by the Director of Central Intelligence. The order in which the FY 1976

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questions are listed should not be regarded as implying an internal priority: by definition, all the *Key* Intelligence Questions are of major importance.

5. Additions or modifications to the Key Intelligence Questions may be issued from time to time during FY 1976, if major changes in the international situation or the foreign intelligence environment should so dictate.